



Muy querido Tomic,

I was very happy to receive your letter. Time passes, so much of it, and so fast. I was quite surprised by the news of your Chilean election since I had heard that the chances were so high for Fred. I know very little of what is happening in Chile from the political stand-point, but what is passing in my country makes me feel very bad indeed. A country as basically sound and healthy ~~intrinsic~~ as is the United States has seemed to deliberately turn to a leaderless void where no one knows what is happening, and every statement that is issued officially or semi-officially seems contradictory. Even from the economic point of view, we are told simultaneously that we are on the brink of a dangerous recession, and at the same time, that things are going to a "new high". "But the number of unemployed is not a very healthy symptom. Politically, I don't think we have a point of view. By we, I mean the old men who are supposed to be running things. I am afraid that leadership is scarce, since the Democrats, too, are all mixed up in their own polemics and power battles within the party. It is discouraging. Perhaps even a Roosevelt would be a little lost at this moment. Perhaps history makes the man, as much as man makes the history.

Dear Tomic, you mentioned in a much earlier letter to me (which I did answer) that you might get up to the U.S.? Is there still any possibility? I do hope so. How are all the many members of your lovely family, Olaya and Dona Carmela, and the seven little ones who I imagine are quite big by now? How far away you all seem. I hope it is space that causes that, and not the affections of the heart, or that you have forgotten me.

I am glad to see that Chile has a person like you so think of its future with courage and an optimistic heart. Perhaps destiny will not work out things always as we would like them and in that sense optimism may be futile, but I think it is very important to be optimistic in the sense of believing that such-and such is possible, or could be

**[Carta], [1958], [New, York] [a] Radomiro Tomic [manuscrito]
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